

McKinley 6-12 Related Arts Curriculum Overview

Instrumental Music/General Music Classes and Performance Groups:

All ensembles are comprised of students from all grade levels. Students will be assigned to a particular ensemble by the director based upon their individual skill levels.

Beginning Band:

Students will meet every other day and alternating Fridays for classroom instruction. Members of this group will be split into a 2nd Period Beginning Brass and Percussion Class or a 6th Period Beginning Woodwinds and Percussion Class. All members of this ensemble are expected to perform in the Spring Concerts while some members may also be selected, based on their particular abilities and musicianship, to participate in the Winter Concerts. All incoming sixth-grade band students will be assigned to this level for their entire first semester, at a minimum, of instrumental music class.

Intermediate Band:

Students will meet on Tuesdays, Thursdays and alternating Fridays at 8th Period for classroom instruction and will also meet periodically after school on selected Monday evenings from 2:30 to 4:30PM. Members of this ensemble are expected to perform two concerts per year (Winter and Spring) towards the end of each semester. The Intermediate Band may also be selected to perform at the SLPS Music in Our Schools Month Band Adjudication Festival in the spring as well as other selected music festivals throughout the school year. Future members of the Wind Ensemble are usually selected from this band level.

Goldbug Wind Ensemble:

Students will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and alternating Fridays at 4th Period for classroom instruction and will also meet periodically after school on selected Tuesday evenings from 2:30 to 4:30PM. Members of this ensemble perform at least two regular school concerts per year as well as many other performance events at various locations and times throughout the year. This performing group represents McKinley CLA at the SLPS Music in Our Schools Month Band Adjudication Festival in the spring as well as other selected music festivals throughout the school year. The McKinley Goldbug Wind Ensemble is a nationally award-winning band, having won the Festival Disney National Band Championship at Disney World in Orlando, Florida in 2017.

Goldbug Jazz Band:

This ensemble is open to any currently enrolled McKinley instrumental music student (grades 7-12) within the typical jazz instrumentation (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, bass, guitar, piano, percussion and vocalists) by audition and/or director invitation only. Jazz Band will meet after school on selected Thursday evenings from 2:30 to 4:30PM. Performances will include concerts, music festivals, and appearances in community events. In 2015 this group recorded a studio CD at Shock City Studios in Soular that was released regionally. This group has performed at the Kansas City Jazz Festival five different times winning an "Outstanding Ensemble" award each time. The McKinley Goldbug Jazz Band is also a nationally award-winning band, having won the Festival Disney National Jazz Band Championship at Disney World in Orlando, Florida in 2017.

McKinley Goldbug Jazz/Rock Combo:

This ensemble is open to any McKinley instrumental music student (grades 7-12) by invitation of the band director only. This group is usually an eight to nine piece jazz/rock combo that meets after school on selected Wednesday evenings from 2:30 to 4:30PM. This group has performed at the Kansas City Jazz Festival four times and has also performed at the Webster Groves Community Days (July 4th) Festival four times, winning a “Best Performing Group” award three different times.

High School Class Piano:

Students will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and alternating Fridays at 1st period for performance instruction in our school piano lab. This class is primarily designed for high school students who have little or no experience playing the piano. The focus of this class is to teach basic notation reading skills, correct fingering positions and basic performance competencies. This class counts towards the Missouri High School graduation requirements as a fine arts credit.

Middle School Music History Class:

Students will meet every other day and alternating Fridays at the 3rd and 7th Periods for classroom instruction. This one-semester class is primarily designed for middle school students who do not or have never played a band instrument. The focus of this class is on the four major periods of music history (1600 to present day), listening to major musical works as well as discussing music as it relates to culture and major movies from the last one hundred years of American film.

Vocal Music Classes:

High School Concert Choir:

This is a choir for students in grades 9-12 who enjoy singing and desire to develop their vocal ability. Students in this course should strive to reach a high level of musicianship, individually and as an ensemble. This group involves hard work as students develop their vocal ability and explore a variety of quality choral literature. Daily participation and required end of semester performances will make up a significant part of the class grade. Students are required to attend all rehearsals during the school day. There may also be after school rehearsals and sectionals announced as needed throughout the semester and students will be expected to be in attendance. Students may also elect to get involved in the McKinley School Musical. Students in this group may also be selected to participate in Adjudicated Events.

7th and 8th Grade Select Choir:

This choir is made up of 7th and 8th grade students who have previous choir experience and are ready for more advanced music literature. Students will explore singing through a variety of quality choral repertoire including foreign language texts, and pieces from different music periods. This choir will rehearse during the regular school day, however students choosing to participate in solo and ensemble events or other honor choir opportunities may have additional after school rehearsals. This select group will participate in Adjudicated Events in and out of school. Students may also elect to get involved in the McKinley School

Musical. As this is a performance ensemble, there will be a required performance each semester that will make up a large portion of student's grade along with regular classwork.

7th and 8th Grade Choir:

This choir is made up of 7th and 8th grade students who have a beginning level of choir experience. Students will explore singing through a variety of quality choral repertoire and gain a more in-depth appreciation for music. This choir will rehearse during the regular school day, however students choosing to participate in solo and ensemble events or other honor choir opportunities may have additional after school rehearsals. Students may also elect to get involved in the McKinley School Musical. There will be required performances each semester that will make up a significant part of the class grade. Students are required to attend all rehearsals during the school day. The class will focus on note reading, ear training, rhythm, Solfege, intonation, and vocal technique and health while each student builds confidence in their voice.

6th grade Beginning Choirs:

There are two sections of 6th grade beginning choir for students interested in learning about the voice and singing. It is a year long class that will rehearse during the regular school day. Students should expect to explore a variety of choral repertoire throughout the semester and perform both as an individual choir and as a combined 6th grade or middle school choir with the 7th and 8th grade choirs. Students may also elect to get involved in the McKinley School Musical. There will be required performances each semester that will make up a significant part of the class grade along with regular coursework. The class will focus on note reading, ear training, rhythm, Solfege, intonation, and vocal technique and health while each student builds confidence in their voice.

Art Classes:

6th and 7th Grade Visual Art:

These courses focus on students attaining the habits of thought and skills necessary for an artist to create original art. A wide range of visual language applications are explored, including but not limited to: album design, character and comic creation, shoe design and branding, typography and graphic design, and various other explorations into the visual language.

8th grade Honors Art:

8th grade Honors Art is carefully designed to provide eligible students an advanced and challenging art studio experience. Students are expected to not only apply the skills and knowledge attained in 6th and 7th grade, but also expand upon it while working in an independent studio art setting. Projects in this curriculum are exponentially more advanced and require students to consistently work outside of their comfort zone. Emphasis is placed on student ideas and effective use of the visual language. Students are required to learn how to safely use more advanced tools. Students are also expected to demonstrate a sincere sense of ownership and care for the classroom studio and materials.

Intro to studio art –full year/ 1 credit hour

Introductory class for 9-12th grade students. Covers base knowledge and production in each of the major mediums of art, the elements and principles of design, elements of art historical significance, and art criticism. The class is the prerequisite for all other high school level studio art classes.

Drawing and Painting –1 and 2 (each semester long and ½ credit)

An exploration into building advanced skills in the media of drawing and painting for 10-12th grades. Students will explore the various media techniques and production skills in both drawing and painting, common themes and issues of drawing and painting, advanced application of the elements and principles of design in drawing and painting media, historical connotations of drawing and painting media, and skills in art criticism. Prerequisite –completed introductory studio class with B or better.

Ceramics –1 and 2 (each semester long and ½ credit) – COVID-permitting

An exploration into building advanced skills in the media of ceramics for 10-12th grades. Students will explore the various building and glazing techniques and production skills in ceramic arts, common themes and issues of clay, advanced application of the elements and principles of design in 3D media, historical connotations of ceramics in both form and function, and skills in art criticism. Prerequisite –completed introductory studio class with B or better.

Ceramics 3 and 4 (each semester long and ½ credit) – COVID-permitting

A continuation of skills development from Ceramics 1 and 2, for 11-12th grades. Students will further develop personal skills for the development of personal and original compositions and themes in work. Advanced wheel throwing and alternative firing/glazing techniques will be integral to skills development. Students will further develop skills in group and self-critique for advancement in visual arts understanding as both a viewer and producer. Prerequisite –Completed a. introductory studio class with B or better b. Ceramics 1 & 2 with a B or better.

3D Design

An exploration into building sculptural skills in a variety of media and design structures for 10th-12th grades. Class will cover several form and structure prompts; ideas in formalism and imitationalism; and installation, display and documentation of 3D forms. Students will explore the various building media and techniques, common themes and issues of sculptural design, advanced application of the elements and principles of design in 3D media, historical and contemporary 3D artists, and skills in art criticism. Prerequisite – completed introductory studio class with B or better.

AP Studio Art Options:

- Drawing portfolio
- 2D Design Portfolio
- 3D Design Portfolio

An independent but teacher guided study of personal art themes and production in selected portfolio. Developed portfolio will be submitted through College Board for the possible award of AP credit and

investigate works in a. Quality (selected works of skill), b. Breadth (works of a range of artistic approaches) and c. Concentration (personal sustained investigation of themes). Students will work towards developing college level skills in production, experimentation, visual understanding, composition, criticism, and artistic problem solving. Prerequisite – Completed a. introductory studio class with B or better b. EITHER Drawing and Painting 1 & 2 with a B or better OR Ceramics 1 & 2 with a B or better. Students may be concurrently enrolled in further advanced studies. Course may be repeated for credit with a different portfolio submission.

Dance Classes:

The McKinley Classical Leadership Academy Dance program is designed for the student who is interested in using dance as a performing art form by conveying an idea or an emotion through movement. Providing a basis for stable or active postures and movement, students will learn and perform the fundamentals of classical ballet, modern, jazz, tap, and Dunham Technique, as well as dance history and pedagogy.

Students also participate in residency programs offered through Dance St. Louis which brings teaching artists from worldwide performing companies into the classroom. In the residency classes, students receive instruction in the resident company's technique, create their own short choreography, and participate in activities that make cross-curricular connections with language arts, social studies, career development, music, and health.

Physical Education/Health Classes:

Introduction to Health is a semester long course in the high school that covers the seven Missouri Health Standards. The course is divided into six major units, each focusing on an important human system. Each unit will address three types of learning: Key Information, Discussion, and Presentations.

Middle School Physical Education 6-8 is a semester long course that covers a variety of skill and game-like situations. The students take notes and quizzes on their sports and fitness skills. The opposite semester will be health class.

Ninth Grade High School Physical Education (PE) is a continuation of the Middle School yearlong PE course. The importance of Nutrition and Lifelong fitness is also a topic taught/raised/discussed.

Introduction to Weight Training is a semester-long course designed to instruct the students in the use of weight lifting in their everyday life. Some of the topics covered are: Why it is important to lift weights, using Correct form, weight room etiquette and safety, various techniques, body weight exercises versus using weights, etc.

Team Sports is a year-long course which incorporates various sports involving teamwork.

Coding Courses

Coding Grade 6 – This is the *Computer Science Fundamentals* course from Code.org. In this course, students will learn to utilize basic programming skills like variables, loops, conditional statements, and functions. They

will work on make games and creative projects to share with friends, family, and teachers. We also will work on Scratch programming games and animations to generalize the concepts we learned on Code.org.

Coding Grade 7 – This is the *Computer Science Discoveries* course from Code.org. In this course, students will learn how to use HTML/CSS programming to construct webpages about topics of their choice.

Coding Grade 8 – This is the *Intro to Programming* course for *Python* programming offered through Edhesive.com. In this course, students learn to use variables, loops, conditional statements, and functions to design programs in the Python programming language. Python is the most widely used programming language in the world.

Coding 1-2 – This is an introduction to computer coding. It focuses on the beginning skills or website design and creating simple games.

Coding 3-4 – This is a more advanced computer coding course. The focus is on creating animations, more complex games, and scripting skills. This is a more project based course with the students designing programs of their choosing in the language being taught.